

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /084 W

----- 061922

R 141726Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8860

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PO

SUBJ: GOVERNMENT EXTENDS PERIOD FOR COMMENT ON LABOR DECREES

REF: LISBON 6769 (DTG 011727Z OCT 76)

1. ON SEPT 30 THE CABINET APPROVED A SERIES OF DECREE LAWS
DESIGNED TO REDUCE LABOR INDISCIPLINE. SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR LABOR MALDONADO TOLD LABATT SEPT 27 THAT DECREES WOULD
BE PUBLISHED BY OCT 4.

2. IN FACE OF INTERSINDICAL PROTESTS THAT THE MINISTRY OF
LABOR HAD NOT ALLOWED SUFFICIENT TIME FOR THE CON-
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STITUTIONALLY REQUIRED CONSULTATION WITH WORKERS, THE

GOVERNMENT HAS EXTENDED THE PERIOD FOR CONSULTATION UNTIL OCT 26.

3. SUB-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR LABOR CUSTODIO SIMOES TOLD EMBOFFS OCT 14 THAT EARLIER CABINET APPROVAL WAS "IN PRINCIPLE," THUS ALLOWING THE POSSIBILITY FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. HE STATED THAT DECREES MENTIONED REFTEL AND ADDITIONAL MEASURES WOULD BE ISSUED AS A PACKAGE BY END OF OCTOBER. GOVERNMENT IS TAKING POSITION THAT IT CAN ISSUE DECREE LAWS ON ALL SUBJECTS NOT SPECIFICALLY RESERVED BY THE CONSTITUTION TO THE CONGRESS. THUS, ISSUANCE OF LABOR-RELATED DECREE LAWS WILL NOT BE DELAYED UNTIL CONGRESS ACTS ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION DEALING WITH WORKER CONTROL OF MANAGEMENT, STRIKES, COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, AND UNION ORGANIZATION.

4. COMMENT: BY CONCEDING A DELAY TO INTERSINDICAL, THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE A TACTICAL CONCESSION TO ELIMINATE A POTENTIAL POLITICAL ISSUE.
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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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